

25Mar71

The Director

GACarver, Jr.

You might enjoy the attached which was given to me by Laird's secretary. He got it from Kissinger who got it from Erlichman, the "Dear John" to whom it is addressed.

George A. Carver, Jr.  
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

Attachment

ROBERT B. GILLESPIE

P. O. BOX 7027  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75209

February 15, 1971

Dear John:

I know you fellows think you have a lot of trouble with the bureaucracy, but let me here quote an example of Mr. Lincoln's problems with his bureaucracy.

Correspondence

"Dear Stanton: Appoint this man chaplain in the army. (Signed) A. Lincoln."

"Dear Mr. Lincoln: He is not a preacher. (Signed) E. M. Stanton."

"Dear Mr. Stanton: He is now. (Signed) A. Lincoln."

"Dear Mr. Lincoln: But there is no vacancy. (Signed) E. M. Stanton."

"Dear Mr. Stanton: Appoint him chaplain-at-large. (Signed) A. Lincoln."

"Dear Mr. Lincoln: There is no warrant in law for that. (Signed) E. M. Stanton."

"Dear Mr. Stanton: Appoint him anyhow. (Signed) A. Lincoln."

"Dear Mr. Lincoln: I will not. (Signed) E. M. Stanton."

--Official Records of the  
War Department